

Throw-Away Lives

Alvin Toffler, author of Future Shock and Third Wave, argued several years ago that America was fast becoming a “throw-away” society. He bases his argument upon our propensity to purchase disposable, one-time-use items and, when their usefulness has run its course, throw it away instead of finding in it a value worthy of repair. Further, he claims that our trash-generating generation has been increasing garbage at an exponential rate, recycling notwithstanding, to the point of panic. That was then and this is now but the worst-case scenario he painted has become a reality: very little is made to last and less is worth repairing.

As societal values merge with today’s economic reality, we are now just as unstable in our moral grounding. A relativistic, subjective ethic allows us to change to accommodate the latest psychobabble; even things historically “right” have suddenly come under fire and historical redactors are all too ready to change history to suit their subversive narrative. Employing exceptions to the exceptions, many a legal issue has blurred black and white into a murky shade of gray. Nothing is absolute, or even absolutely wrong, anymore; we are an exception to the rule. And, even the rule that isn’t a “rule” is more a generic guideline if ignoring it is convenient.

The reason this departure from objective truth is so prevalent is because people have deserted God’s Word. There are no shades of gray in the Book. God states: “For I am the Lord, I do not change” (Malachi 3:6). Whereas God’s Word is always precise and unwavering, it presents that kind of static, dependable, unchangeable directive, which creates problems for moment-motivated derangement. “If it feels good, do it” is the anthem of Satan and not the pragmatic philosophy of happiness “experts” try to pawn it off to be.

We must reassert the fact of truth, both in its existence and its “knowability.” We must stand up when standing creates controversy. We must identify things as the Bible describes them: sin, salvation, or service. And finally, we must base our life in God’s Word. If God says it’s wrong, we avoid it; if God authorizes it, we are well advised to use it to further the Kingdom. If we as a people cannot return to moral certitude, we will become nothing more than expendable, throw-away lives, marred, broken, and spoiled... and good for nothing.

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